



## FACT SHEET: The Beginning of the IKAT-US Partnership

Through the U.S.-Indonesia Comprehensive Partnership, our two governments are committed to identifying ways together to solve global and regional problems, including supporting democratic aspirations, improving governance, and fostering respect for human rights. While our two governments can work together to achieve these goals, Indonesian and American citizens – through their civil societies – can also promote our two countries' shared commitment to democracy and human rights.

Today, the United States began the process of developing the "Inisiatif Kemitraan Asia Tenggara – United States (IKAT-US)" or "Southeast Asia – US Partnership: Civil Societies Innovating Together." This is an unprecedented effort to facilitate the sharing of the expertise and experiences of Indonesian civil society groups outside Indonesia, by developing and implementing projects on a range of democracy, governance, and human rights subjects in partnership with their counterparts from U.S. civil society and Southeast Asian countries.

The **IKAT-US Partnership** will be:

- A critical **initiative** to empower civil society organizations in Indonesia to be effective voices and forces for transformational change through a new chapter in South-South cooperation.
- An **opportunity** to move decades-long U.S. support for Indonesian civil society to the next generation of cooperation by enhancing its ability to collaborate on democracy, good governance, and human rights-related programs throughout the region.
- A **recognition** that Indonesia's vibrant yet stable multi-party democracy stands as an example for other countries in various stages of democratic development to emulate – both within and outside Southeast Asia.
- A **program** to facilitate partnerships among Indonesian, U.S., and regional CSOs in five areas critical to the development of democracy, good governance, and respect for human rights: (1) elections and political participation; (2) independent media and freedom of information; (3) peace-building and conflict resolution; (4) transparency and accountability; and (5) human rights monitoring and advocacy.

USAID will be soliciting concept papers outlining potential partnerships that might be developed under this new initiative. The United States is committed to highlighting those practices and innovations that are transforming Indonesia's democratic culture and finding ways to support the sharing of these experiences and approaches across the region.